

## Monroe County's

# Northampton Park

### Trail Information

#### Gardner Trail

This trail is an easy 1.8 mile walk over level terrain. It follows a mowed path through fields in the secondary stage of succession, so look for a variety of dogwood shrubs. While the majority of trees along the trail are ash, look for maple, hickory, hornbeam, and beech. The trail is fairly wide and therefore gets sun, so there may be seasonal wildflowers and most likely butterflies.

#### Creek Trail

This trail is an easy 1.3 mile walk over gently rolling terrain. Most of the trail is through woods of ash, oak, hickory, maple, hornbeam, black cherry, beech, and white pine trees. See if you can catch a glimpse of a coyote, deer, wild turkey or red fox that have been spotted in the area.

A highlight of this trail is the portion that follows Spring Creek. There are great views of the creek and open woods so watch for wildlife. Some of the shagbark hickory, beech and oak trees reach heights of more than 75 feet. In summer there are a variety of ferns. In fall, look for unusual woodland fungus. Various mosses on fallen trees make this portion of the trail especially beautiful spring through fall.

#### Fairview Trail

This linear trail is a 1.1 mile round trip walk over gently rolling terrain. The trail follows a mowed path bordered predominately by ash trees. The highlight of this trail is the Northampton Nature Trail. Pick up a map from the map box at the Salmon Creek Road trailhead and see if you can identify trees along the trail, including: ash, hornbeam, sugar maple, red oak, horsechestnut, box elder and quaking aspen. Look for various dogwood and honeysuckle shrubs and staghorn sumac. Locust and basswood trees aren't on the trail guide, but can you find them?

This trail receives a great deal of sun, so look for wildflowers. A portion of this trail follows along a steep ravine that leads to Salmon Creek.

#### Loop Trail

This trail is an easy .4 mile walk over level terrain. A highlight is a wooden bridge over Salmon Creek. Look for fall wildflowers such as Joe-Pye-weed, asters, goldenrod and jewelweed. The trail is a short but delightful woodland walk through pine, ash, maple, beech, shagbark hickory, oak and black cherry trees. The woodland floor is blanketed with various mosses and sunlight filters through the woods to highlight wildflowers and ferns.

#### Farm Trail

This trail is an easy to moderate 1.5 mile walk over rolling terrain. One of the highlights on this trail is Springdale Farm, a demonstration farm. There are animals, interpretative gardens and displays and a corn maze in late summer and fall.

Another highlight and observation point is the pond area. Adjacent to the larger pond, is a small "viewing pond" with an observation booklet where you can record sightings of dragonflies, Canada geese, painted turtles, various waterfowl, wood ducks and turkey vultures and other wildlife. What can you observe?

Near marker 14 you can take a side trip into the "Enchanted Woods." Here you will find some interesting interpretative displays such as tree identification and a model Seneca bark long house.

Another highlight of this trail is the portion that follows the ravine overlooking Spring Creek. Hickory, black cherry, ash, hornbeam, spruce, red pines, and maple trees are along the trail. Other portions of the trail pass through meadows and transition areas with seasonal wildflowers and butterflies. These transition areas are great for wildlife viewing.

Please be aware of seasonal changes in trail conditions and be prepared for natural environment such as mosquitoes and poison ivy in some areas.

#### If you have rented a Lodge..

Go to the Lodge you have rented. The doors will be unlocked one hour prior to the arrival time printed on your reservations permit.

#### Northampton Park Hours and Rules

Northampton Park is open everyday from 6:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. The shelters and lodges are reserved by calling 256-4951 and are available from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. daily. Our County Parks are Carry-In Carry-Out. Please take all garbage with you to dispose of after you leave. Keg Beer is permitted if stamped on your rental permit. Recreation fields are available on a first come / first serve basis if the fields are not in league use. Pets must be leashed. Bicycles are not allowed on trails.

Youth Camping is available by permit only by calling 256-4951.

#### **Downhill Skiing**

Bristol Mountain operates the ski hill at Northampton Park including the rope tow, ski lessons and equipment rentals. Instructional camps, adult and youth lessons, and opening skiing is available. Call 234-6420 or 352-9995 for more information.

The Ogden Historical Society runs The Pulver House Museum. The museum is open to the public on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Memorial Day through Thanksgiving Day Weekend. Call 352-3672 for more information.

**Springdale Farm** is a public demonstration farm operated by Heritage Christian Home. Visit and pet the animals, play on the playground or visit the pond. It is free and open Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays noon to 4:00 p.m. **Call 352-5320 for more information**.